



# **NEWSLETTER**

## **MARCH 2020**



**Next Meeting: To be Advised**

Waikato Sport Fishing clubrooms - Grantham St

Cup of Tea/Coffee and Socialise 7:15pm Meeting 8pm

**Cover - Derek Dobson with a nice Taupo Trout caught jigging from his boat before the lockdown.**

## **AND COMING UP .....**

**Some good news soon hopefully!**

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**Point of release - Ray P**



## President's Comment

The recent imposition of "Lockdown" by our government has impacted on everyone's daily lives and will do so for what will probably be a longer timeframe than first indicated. Unfortunately in the current environment time away from employment does not free up time to get in more fishing and also prevents the opportunity to spend time at Club meetings or mix with fishing buddies.

As advised in a separate Club Notice the March Club meeting has been cancelled. Our guest speaker was to be Barrie Barnes from I LOVE FLY FISHING, and while he runs a very busy on-line fly-fishing equipment store Barrie is also a very active fishing guide (I have met him on the Tongariro with clients) with some good tales to tell, watch for a re-schedule date in the future.

In addition the 2020 Club Casting Championships were going to be held on a Saturday in early April at 4pm on the common beside the river at Malcolm Street, we will advise a re-scheduled date or cancellation of this competition following a planned review of our Club activities by the committee in April, in the mean-time get in some practice in the back yard.

Our guest speaker scheduled for the April meeting was to be Andrew Burden who has recently joined Fly Tackle NZ, Andrew will be known to a number of our members for his "riverside reports" while working for Sporting Life in Tūrangi, again we will review this activity and advise.

The May meeting which would normally include our Annual Prize-Giving and the Club AGM is also in doubt, preparation will continue towards determining the winners of Club Trophies which have been completed over the last year should the meeting still be held at the end of May, otherwise we will postpone to a later month and advise. Based on the meeting making the original date in May (25<sup>th</sup>) our guest speaker will be Tim Anderson with a summary of the World Flyfishing Champ's in Tasmania and we will hear an update on the recent Commonwealth Flyfishing Champ's here in NZ (see results within this newsletter).

Please ensure you have taken every opportunity to get your entries of both fish and photo's in for our Club competitions before the end of April as there is a lot of preparation required before the AGM and it would be a shame to miss out due to late entry.

Please also start thinking about nominations for Club Officers, if you feel you have something to offer towards the function of the Club by serving on the committee let one of us know.

Stay Safe,

Ray

## Club News

Well, gosh everything pales into insignificance compared to the recent news in regard to the Covid 19 business doesn't it. I guess many of us are in the getting a bit old and creaky division and wondering about what course of action to take with this thing; I know I am. One thing's for sure fishing is out in the mean time. Let's pause and take time to think about those who are in less fortunate things than ourselves and those who are providing essential services and putting their health at risk.

Meantime back to Club business. First off congratulations to Colin and Eryn Tan and their daughter Lucy on the arrival of their new baby boy Marcus. Colin is currently very busy working with the National Crisis Control Centre in his St. Johns role.

Also congratulations to Club members Tim Anderson and Gareth Godfrey who were members of the NZ Silver Flies Team who came third in the recent Commonwealth Fly Fishing Champs held in the Central North Island on the Tongariro and Whanganui Rivers and Lakes Rotoaira and Otamangakau. Tim also came a creditable 5th place in the overall placing for individual anglers. For more information check these sites.

[commonwealthflyfish2020.co.nz/](http://commonwealthflyfish2020.co.nz/)

[Recreation/Commonwealth-Fly-Fishing-Champs-NZ-2020-108574003919803/](http://Recreation/Commonwealth-Fly-Fishing-Champs-NZ-2020-108574003919803/)

### Apology

This is exciting I've never had to apologise for a mistake before. We have two very pleasant gentlemen in our club, Derek Dobson and Geoff Mears who fish together. In the January edition I credited the fish below, a fine 8lber caught jigging on Rotoiti, to Geoff when in fact it was caught by Derek. Geoff politely pointed out my mistake rather than accept the fame. My lame excuse of saying they looked very similar didn't wash! Sorry guys. BTW Derek seems to have this jigging sorted.





I quite enjoyed the bring and buy sale at the last meeting and that's maybe because I brought and didn't buy. It was a great opportunity for those of us who wanted to get rid of some excess tackle and sure some others enjoyed their bargains. I hope Malcolm enjoys the collection of magazines that had been slowly piling up in my wardrobe for the past 5 or so years. There were all those fly patterns in them I was going to tie some time - yeah right. It was a shame that more members didn't take advantage of the opportunity to do a de-clutter and flog off some excess gear.

Clearly we may not be having a meeting for a while so the committee have been scratching our collective heads to come up with some ideas to keep connected in the meantime. As mentioned in Derek's recent email we recognise that the majority, if not all of us, are familiar with the Club's Google Groups email address. We would encourage you to post a link to your favourite fly fishing website, a fly pattern or anything else you think other members may find interesting. We could even start discussions. There is also our Facebook page but I understand not everyone is a FB user. If you do struggle to post links or photos maybe there is someone in your bubble who can teach you. This is the perfect time to learn.

By the way I have discovered the wild mushrooms are in season on my neighbourhood walks, you might be surprised where you find them on pieces of vacant land around town.

Keep well, look after your family, all you folk in essential jobs - on yah, keep up the good work; Charlie.

### **Last Committee Meeting Excerpts**

- The Committee resolved that the Club become a 'Gold Member' of The New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers Inc, NZFFA, giving us our Club name/ Logo, Link and contact details on their website and have a say in their advocacy role. The Club is still very interested in having one of our members on their Committee, which is apparently not an onerous position.
- The Casting Champs will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> April on the Malcolm St Reserve area starting at 4.00. Rules will be the same as last year.
- It was recommended that the membership sub remain the same.

Hardie

## **Contact**

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# Taupo Rod & Tackle

FLY SHOP



I received this email from Derek Dobson recently, he certainly gets good use out of his boat! The fish pictured is a good size and in great condition.

Hi Charlie

Firstly I would like to give a big shout out for Gavin Hall and his wife for organising the Kids Fishing Day on Sunday last. Same as last year it was well supported by the public bringing along their youngsters.

Well for me, should I have to self isolate, I have decided to fish from my boat in the middle of a lake, preferably where there are plenty of fish!!

Not really, but recently I having been jigging on Lake Taupo. The weather was fine, and the lake a flat calm, so first spot was to venture down from Acacia Bay to Horomatangi Reef. Plenty of sign here, and a few fish caught, mainly at 3 pound.

Next stop Mine Bay, nearer to the ramp as the wind had got up in the afternoon. Fish here were in better condition and I resulted in catching a fat 5lb 4oz rainbow jack.

Regards Derek Dodson



## Surprises at the Waihou River

Chatting to members at the Kid's day out, as you do, Chris asked if I felt like a fish on the Waihou next Saturday – why not, hadn't been there for ages and the 3 weight needed an airing.

The obligatory coffee at 'Alley Cats' in Tirau was on the agenda (their muffins are freshly baked and awesome) and then it was off to the river.

I planned to use Euro nymph tactics with 2 small weighted flies and Chris was using a dry/dropper combination. In that way we fished different parts of the water and watched each other so we didn't get too far away in case a trout needed netting. It wasn't long before that happened as well!!

A lot of the river was covered and a number of reasonable rainbows landed and lost. Very few small ones as well, I think it was just 3 tiddlers all up.

Chris wanted to take a fish home and this 4lb fish succumbed to the knife. We wanted to check out the stomach contents as the trout was fat and 'lumpy'. What a surprise, no, not the koura inside as that is normal from this river, but check out the size of them!!! They were in almost perfect condition and had to have been consumed during the night. Why bother with a size 14 caddis nymph we thought!

The next club fly tying sessions may have to include freshwater patterns tied up on saltwater size hooks!!!

Derek



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I have no doubt we will all be stocking, or overstocking our fly boxes currently. Those of us who are stuck at home anyway. I am trying to ration the number of flies I tie or will end up with too many and they just won't get used. I am also trying some new patterns which hopefully won't sit in a corner of my flybox only to be tried on those slow days. I have also realised I probably have enough materials to last me through several months lockdown. Some of the patterns I am tying I don't have all the materials required but do have others that I can substitute. It is quite satisfying to be able to create your own variations on patterns; the only problem at present is you can't even take them for a swim to see what they look like in the water let alone see what the fish think of them.

Here is a fly I was shown recently it's a Hare and Copper flymph, (look that up). I have tied a few since then.



Hook - size 12 wet fly.  
Tail - hare body fibres  
Rib - copper wire, first run a length along the hook shank as you would with lead wire for weight.  
Body - hares mask mixed with a small amount of uv dubbing if you choose, (I do).  
Hackle - hare, rabbit or pine squirrel body hair spun in a loop and tied in as a hackle flymph style.  
As I said if you don't know what a flymph, (fly/nymph), is google the word.

Fish this fly wet as a point fly in a team, swing it through runs and riffles or above a weighted nymph It's fast becoming a favourite of mine. Browns like it, rainbows like it and I managed to hook a carp on it that I was sight fishing to on the Waikato not long ago. Don't know if that was a fluke because I haven't had a chance to repeat the experiment since



Here are a couple of recent photos from Colin Tan. The bottom one was taken by his mate Les Riddle, Colin was getting himself set up when the fish in the photo slid down stream and positioned itself in front of him. Colin never told me whether he managed to land it or not.





## A joke from Russell

A man walks into a Greek tailor's store

Euripides?

I say yes, Eumenides.



I built the rod above recently out of a blank I scored off Trademe. It was a great deal an 8'6" glass 7# that came with reel seat, fore grip, rod sock and tube. I cannibalised an old broken 8# for the guides and used the old grip to make a rear switch butt thereby making myself a micro skagit rod; my intention was to use it on the TT and Hinemaia. I took the setup down to the Waikato river and tested it with a 250 grain OPST Commando - it was a cannon! While I was there I saw a carp cruising along as they do, why not I thought and cast the hare and copper flymph I had on the end of the sinktip at the carp managing to land it right in its face. The carp turned, I struck and after a bit of a tussle I had a big fat orange carp on the sand. As I went to grab it it gave a flick of its tail, the hook fell out and the carp was back in the water. Owing to C19 I haven't had a chance to get back to the river and try again but have had a chat to Gavin about carp. Coincidentally he has been thinking about them too and forwarded me the link below - maybe we should have a carp on fly contest?

<https://www.ginkandgasoline.com/tag/carp-fishing/>





Gareth Godfrey caught this 11.5lb brown and 8lb rainbow while fishing on Lake O. I'm not sure if he was practising for the Commonwealth Champs or competing at the time. Not only did he compete as a member of the 3rd placed NZ Silver Flies team Gareth also played a major role in organising the competition. Apparently he is stepping back from competing for a while so we better lock up our trophy cabinet!



## Dave Winchcombe Cup

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where caught
April	Gavin Hall	8lb 8oz	Brown	Tongariro
May	Andy Vanner	6lb	Rainbow	Tarawera
June	Kane Steward	5lb 8oz	Rainbow	Tongariro
July	Andy Vanner	9.01lb	Rainbow	Tarawera
August	Ken Collier	4.95lb	Rainbow	Tongariro
September	Rick Bradley	4.6lb	Rainbow	Tongariro
November	Ian Wilde	8.4lb	Rainbow	Otamangakau
January	Derek Dobson	8lb	Rainbow	Rotoiti
February	Gareth Godfrey	11lb 8oz	Brown	Otamangakau

## Gamin Cup

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where Caught
April	Gavin Hall	5lb 8oz	Rainbow	Waihou
June	Gavin Hall	4lb 8oz	Rainbow	Ngakoaohia
November	John Spence	3lb 8oz	Rainbow	Arapuni
February	Gavin Hall	9lb 8oz	Brown	Arapuni
March	Chris Corbett	4lb	Rainbow	Waihou

## HAC Trip and Event Calendar

Once the current Covid-19 situation is under control and we have a clearer idea of when we can resume club activities we will publish a new calendar. In the meantime please use the club Google Groups email address to communicate and keep the club alive!

### **How Big Is Glenn's Fish?**

Glenn caught this brown trolling on Lake Arapuni. John Spence decided to donate a prize to the person who can estimate to the nearest gram the weight of Glenn's fish.

The prize will be to the value of a monthly club raffle.

The winner will be announced at the AGM in May.

Entries to the editor [chasnanne@gmail.com](mailto:chasnanne@gmail.com)





# Orange Blaster

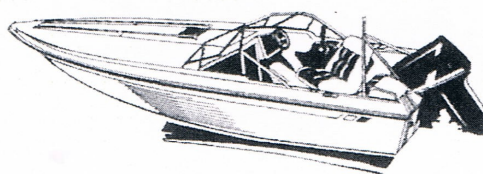
Month	Name	Problem
April	Russel Jennings	Shortening Terry Goupillot's fly line by running over it with his outboard motor.
May	Andy Vanner	Breaking his rod tip in the car door and getting as far as Taupo before realising he had his TALTAC room key on him.
August	Ken Collier	Forgetting to renew his license , getting pinged by the DOC ranger on the Tongariro and having his rod confiscated.
October	Ken Collier	Sitting down while wading a little deep Euro nymphing
November	Colin Tan	Leaving his cell phone on his running board only realising this when blue tooth failed.
March	Covid 19	For disrupting everything including the fishing.

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### CONTACT

John Spence , Lodge Administrator - 07 871 7711 / a/h 07 871 8707

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